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JUN 14 2007

Serial No. 10/688,245
Page 2 of 3REMARKS

Claims 1-7, pending in the application, stand ~~rejected~~ under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 6,014,694 to Aharoni et al. Applicant respectfully traverses the rejection.

The Examiner relied upon, in particular, col. 13, lines 1-10 of Aharoni et al. as alleged disclosure of the claimed feature of shifting timings for starting compression/encoding processes from one another in units of frame. Such portions of Aharoni et al. only include, however, description of a buffer being maintained at a packet transmitter for resending packets when packet receipt acknowledgement is not received from a client. And thus, the cited portions of Aharoni et al. do not disclose the claimed feature of shifting timings for starting the compression/encoding processes from one another in units of frame. Indeed, the cited portion of Aharoni et al. that the Examiner relied upon for disclosure of the claimed synchronizing signal detection—col. 12, 55-67 of Aharoni et al.—only includes description of controlling packet transmission to a client. And therefore, such portion of Aharoni et al. fails to disclose the claimed control of compressing/encoding sections in accordance with detected synchronizing signal.

In other words, Aharoni et al., as cited and relied upon by the Examiner, fail to disclose,

“[a] data transmission device for generating a plurality of compressed/encoded data of different bit rates from a single video signal and simultaneously transmitting the compressed/encoded data onto a network, comprising:

a synchronizing signal detection section for detecting a synchronizing signal from the video signal input thereto;

a plurality of compressing/encoding sections for compressing/encoding the video signal to generate data streams of different bit rates, respectively;

a timing control section for controlling said compressing/encoding sections in accordance with the detected

84220456_1

Serial No. 10/688,245

Page 3 of 3

synchronizing signal such that *timings for starting*
compression/encoding processes in said compressing/encoding
sections are shifted from one another in units of frame; and

a multiplexing section for sequentially multiplexing the data streams generated respectively by said compressing/encoding sections and transmitting the multiplexed data onto the network," as recited in claim 1. (Emphasis added)

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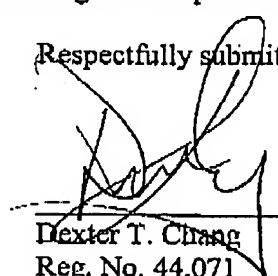
JUN 14 2007

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully submit that claim 1, together with claims 2-6 dependent therefrom, is patentable over Aharoni et al. for at least the foregoing reasons. Claim 7 incorporates features that correspond to those of claim 1 cited above, and is, therefore, patentable over Aharoni et al. for at least the same reasons.

In view of the remarks set forth above, this application is in condition for allowance which action is respectfully requested. However, if for any reason the Examiner should consider this application not to be in condition for allowance, the Examiner is respectfully requested to telephone the undersigned attorney at the number listed below prior to issuing a further Action.

Any fee due with this paper may be charged to Deposit Account No. 50-1290.

Respectfully submitted,


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